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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q73847

Kenji SHIMIZU, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/541,905

Group Art Unit: 2627

Confirmation No.: 6243

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: July 12, 2005

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
THEREFOR, AND MAGNETIC READ/WRITE APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Taiwanese Office Action in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Taiwanese Office Action indicating the degree of relevance found by the Taiwanese Patent Office. JP 2002-334424 was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 12, 2005 and accordingly, it is not being listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A&B modified form. In addition, applicant encloses herewith an English-language Patent Abstract of Japan for JP 8-30951.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith English-language Abstracts for the following cited references: JP 2002-216338, JP 2001-312815, JP 2002-197635, JP 2003-36525, and JP 2001-256640. Applicant also points out that JP 2002-100030 corresponds to the listed US 2002/0058160 and JP 2002-352408 corresponds to the listed US 6,677,061.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

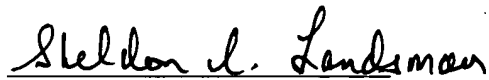
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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 31, 2006



Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/541,905
Confirmation Number	6243
Filing Date	July 12, 2005
First Named Inventor	Kenji SHIMIZU
Art Unit	2627
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q73847

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 2001/0036564	A1	11-01-2001	Ohmori
		US 2003/0064253	A1	04-03-2003	Uwazumi et al.
		US 6,884,520	B2	04-26-2005	Oikawa et al.
		US 2004/0027868	A1	02-12-2004	Nakamura et al.
		US 2002/0058160	A1	05-16-2002	Oikawa et al.
		US 6,677,061	B2	01-13-2004	Shimizu et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2001-291230	A	10-19-2001		Corresponds to US Appln. No. 2001/0036564
		JP	2002-216338	A	08-02-2002	Hitachi Ltd.	W/English language Abstract
		JP	2003-77122	A	03-14-2003		Corresponds to US Appln. No. 2003/0064253
		JP	2003-178412	A	06-27-2003		Corresponds to US 6,884,520
		JP	2003-217107	A	07-31-2003		Corresponds to US Appln. No. 2004/0027868
		JP	2001-312815	A	11-09-2001	Showa Denko KK	W/English language Abstract
		JP	2002-100030	A	04-05-2002		Corresponds to US Appln. No. 2002/0058160

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.



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Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	073847

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 4,743,391	A	05-10-1988	Asada et al.
		US 2002/0058344	A1	05-16-2002	Saki et al.
		US 2002-0136926	A1	09-26-2002	Oikawa et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.